

[REDACTED]

december 22, 1983

**SOUTH AFRICA-ANGOLA: Military Developments**

[REDACTED] South African units operating at widely scattered locations in southern Angola. A helicopter base has been established at Mupa, which South African troops occupied during counterinsurgency sweeps last summer.

[REDACTED] the Mirage fighter-bombers remain at Ondangua, in northern Namibia. The Angolan media report South African air and ground attacks against military and civilian targets in the south.// [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The relatively small size of the South African ground force in southern Angola and the pattern of dispersal of units over a fairly wide area are consistent with Pretoria's claims that its ground forces are engaging in sweep operations against SWAPO units and do not plan major engagements with Cuban and Angolan units. The South African mechanized infantry battalion that remains near Xangongo apparently is a reserve force for contingency purposes.// [REDACTED]